

North Carolina's communications plan will focus on the benefits of "fewer, clearer, and higher" standards and international benchmarking. DPI will provide PD on the new standards to relevant school personnel, utilizing conferences, webinars and other cost-effective delivery methods. DPI will provide schools with a range of instructional resources targeted to aid in the transition and to complement the PD.

All new standards will be taught and assessed beginning in the 2012-13 school year. By the 2014-15 school year, all "paper and pencil" assessments will be phased out, and all assessments will be administered on-line.

Statewide Standards and Assessments: LEA/Charter Responsibilities

Participating LEAs and charters will be responsible for ensuring that teachers and staff are aware of the State resources available to assist the transition to the new standards and assessments. LEAs and charters have the option of developing their own documents and materials to help teachers implement the new *Standard Course of Study*. In addition, LEAs and charters may conduct local professional development regarding the transition to new standards and assessments.